THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. During the last few years, the Government has given special attention to upgrading the strike capability of CPMFs by induction of modern and sophisticated weaponry and equipment. In order to provide a time perspective to Government effort and to cope with the challenge of increased militant and terrorist activities, a Five Year perspective modernisation plan has been formulated which will be implemented in a phased manner.

Cultivation of barren land

†*434. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are vast areas of barren land throughout the country which can be brought under cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take any time-bound steps to bring the barren land under cultivation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (d) The process of soil erosion and land degradation leading to degraded lands, including barren lands, occurs owing to faulty cultivation practices, under utilization of land resources, deterioration due to lack of appropriate soil and water management and natural and environmental causes.

AS per the Wastelands Atlas of India, 2000 (brought out by the Department of Land Resources in collaboration with the National Remote Sensing Agency, Hyderabad employing Satellite Remote Sensing Technologies), the total extent of Wastelands/Degraded lands in the country is 63.85 million hectare, out of which the extent of barren rocky/stony waste/sheet rock area is 6.45 million hectare. The State-wise details are placed at Statement-I *{See* below).

While no specific programme is currently under implementation to bring barren land under cultivation, the main Programmes and Schemes of the Central Government for the treatment of wastelands and degraded lands have components to develop/reclaim such lands by checking and degradation and putting such lands to productive use, the details, of which are given at Statement-II.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement I

State-wise and Category-wise Wastelands of India including Barren Land

(Area in sq. kms.)

Sl		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	9	10	II	12	13	14	15	16
1.	AC	692.6	20256.6	1035.0	603.2	13.8	22237.	709.2	52.9	464.	98.8	5196.2	388.9	0.00	51750.	275068	18.8
2	Aninachal Pradesh		3326.78	41.47		0.00	1416.6	2134.	6.07	309.	0.30	1262.3	7.93	6732.	18326.	83743.	21.88
3	Aaan	0.00	843.72	1633.5		0.00	3112.7	2217.	0.00	3764	0.43	54.88	0.00	0.00	20019.	78438.	25.52
4	Bihar	SJ9.17	4689.93	1198.8	031	45.4	13066.	164.9	79.8	222.	184.	688.91	97.10	0.00	20997.	173877	12.08
5	Got	0.00	292.83	41.02	0.00	0.00	71.9	2.47	32.1	0.00	110.	58.55	3.49	0.00	613.27	3702.0	16.57
6	Guiara	1013.3	21786.7	2656.2	7637.	0.00	5443.0	387.4	78.3	188.	49.6	3293.3	487.3	0.00	43021.	196024	21.95
7	Harva	49.50	988.42	238.3	285.6	0.00	732.5	721.6	134.1	465.	13.7	105.12	0.00	0.00	3733.9	44212.	8.45
8	HP.	121.8	2056.5	15.69	1.36	0.00	4589.9	4278.	2457.	105.	85.6	3858.0	1529.	12559	31659.	55673.	56.87
9	at	21.25	4495.3	246.5	0.00	0.00	2491.6	267.5	6403	869.	0.31	32821	1685.	2190	65444.	101387	64.55
10	Kanak	301.5	9087.6	32.76	125.1	0.00	8299.4	97.46	104.7	43.9	77.7	2627.8	40.97	0.00	20839.	191791	10.87
11	Kerela	0.00	357.93	136.0	0.00	0.00	609.3	3.99	25.6	27.8	0.49	146.46	140.4	0.00	14481	38863.	3.73
11	MP	7569.1	36977.8	51.72	162.8	000	20437.	302.4	910.4	24.5	141.	2950.9	184.6	0.00	69713.	443446	15.7
13	Mahara	1700.3	31386.9	527.5	251.6	0.00	13430.	1349.	687.4	77.6	100.	2587.4	1389.	0.00	13489.	307690	17.3
14	Manip	0.00	1.32	324.6		0.00	608.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12948.	22327.	58.00
13	Megha	0.00	-	14.87		0.00	3612.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9904.	22429.	44.1
16	Mizor	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3761	310.4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4071.6	21081.	19.3
17	Nagal	0.00	1596.4	0.00		0.00	1582.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8404.1	16579.	50.6
18	Orissa	185.8	8358.6	379.1	51-	115.2	10014.	13.43	193.9	212.	35.4	1574.0	207.8	0.00	21341.	155707	13.7
19	Punjab	168.5	339.44	352.0	17329	0.00	353.2	113.7	81.5	619.	26.8	0.00	0.00	0.00	2228.4	50362.	4.42
20	Raiast	4952.7	27152.7	289.6	2722.	0.00	12541.	12208	21.144	0639	128.	4799.0	182.2	0.00	105.63	342239	30.8
21	Sikki	0.00	1073.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	1060.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.34	0.00	1425.	3569.5	7096.0	50.3
22	Tripur	0.00	286.87	0.11	000	400.	588.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1276.0	10486.	12.1
23	TN	226.1	7697.9	415.8	2479.	0.53	9634.2	168.9	221.9	590.	120.	1155.9	301.5	0.00	23013.	130058	17.7
24	UP	2806.5	5498.9	4981.4	5811	0.00	3338.3	446.3	50.4	470	29.2	1180.1	992.8	1316	38772	294411	13.1
25	WB.	171.9	1245.1	1931.5	1312	0.00	777.5	384.9	193	879.	47.3	130.46	16.24	0.00	5718.4	88752.	6.44
26	Union	12.8	25.74	24.60	39.0	0.00	289.8	5.43	46.3	47.3	0.00	83.05	0.00	0.00	574.30	109.73.	5.23
	TOTAL	20553. 35	194014. 29	16568. 45	20477.38 35142.20	140652 .31	25978 .91	50021.65	1252.1	5828.09		64584. 77	7656. 29	5572 8.49	638518.31 3166414.00		20.1 7

1. Gullied and/or ravinous land 2. Land with or without scrub 3. Waterlogged and marshy land 4. Land affected by salinity/alkalinity coastal/inland 5. Shifting cultivation area 6. Under utilised/degraded notified forest land 7. Degraded pastures/grazing land 8. Degraded land under plantation crop 9. Sands-Inland/coastal 10. Mining/Industrial wastelands 11. Barren Rocky/Stony Waste/Sheet Rock Area 12. Steep Sloping Area 13. Snow covered and/or Glacial Area 14. Total wastelands 15. Total Geographical Area 16. Per centage of total geographical area.

Source: 1:50,000 scale wasteland maps prepared from Landsat Thematic Mapper/RS/LISS II/1II Data.

Note: 1,20,849.00 sq. Kms. In Jammu & Kashmir is not mapped and hence not considered for calculating the percentage.

Statement-II

Details of projects implemented by various Central Ministries/ Departments

1. **Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources)**

(i) Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP).

(ii) Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP).

(iii) Desert Development Programme (DDP).

(iv) Technology Development, Extension and Training (TDET) Scheme.

2. Ministry of Agriculture

(i) Soil conservation for enhancing the productivity of degraded lands in the catchments of River Valley Projects (RVPs) and Flood Prone Rivers (FPR).

(ii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS).

(iii) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA).

(iv) Watershed Development Projects for Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA) in North Eastern Slates.

3. Ministry of Water Resources

(i) Reclamation of Waterlogged Areas under Command Area Development Programme (CADP).

4. Ministry of Environment and Forests

(i) Integrated Afforestation and Eco-Development Project (IAEP).

(ii) Area Oriented Fuel-wood and Fodder Projects (AOFFP).

(iii) Grant-in-Aid Scheme for Afforestation and Tree Planting (GIA-ATP).